

August 11, 1984

Dorothy E. Brown Interview
by Liz Jordan

INDEX Tape I, Side A

- 0:00 Introduction
- 0:11 Immigration of Great Grandparents to Sacramento
- 0:37 Anna Parker, maternal grandmother, born
- 0:47 Grandfather Purinton comes to California
- 0:55 Mother born Oct. 14, 1872 on J Street, Sacramento
- 0:67 Grandfather Brown came in 1860's
- 0:77 Father's mother came to teach
- 0:82 1866 married
- 0:83 Father born 1869
- 0:88 Grandmothers visit
- 0:93 Purintons move to sheep ranch near Pleasant Grove
- 1:03 Mother and Father married 1898
- 1:05 Living on 17th Street
- 1:09 The music teacher
- 1:11 Living at 1826 J Street
- 1:16 Dorothy born in 1900 on J Street
- 1:28 Moved to corner of J & J Streets
- 1:38 Grandmother Meister's Donuts
- 1:49 1905 family bought house at 1515 L Street
- 1:63 Description of front and back parlors
- 1:74 Christmas Tree in back parlor
- 1:80 Father's Den
- 1:88 Telephone number remembered
- 1:93 Basement, Chinese cook, fruit and vegetable storage, etc.
- 2:08 Second floor, bedrooms, wash basins with running water,
 Dorothy's room, laundry chute, etc.
- 2:31 Attic rooms
- 2:34 Sleeping porch on north side of house
- 2:55 Attic playroom
- 2:65 Rumpus room in basement
- 2:81 Description of Father's photograph from election to
 the Sacramento First City Council, Father's business
 Ennis Brown Company wholesale produce

Tape I, Side A cont'd

- 3:33 Mother's photograph wearing red beaded dress she wore to opening of Hotel Senator
- 3:56 Opening of Senator Theater
- 3:85 Purchased lots at Al Tahoe 1910 and built summer cottage
- 4:32 1911, moved into the house, description of packing up to Tahoe, taking the train and steamer

Tape I, Side B

- 0:02 Father came to Lake Tahoe in August
- 0:07 The first family automobile, pushing it up the hill
- 0:18 Wagon and horses coming up
- 0:23 Tulac
- 0:32 Picnics at Dead Man's Island
- 0:37 Neighbors at Tahoe
- 0:53 Activities of children at Tahoe
- 0:80 Dances at Tahoe
- 0:91 Dancing lessons
- 1:04 High School Christmas Dances
- 1:18 Sororities and Fraternities in School
- 1:38 Schools attended
- 1:73 High School at 18th and K Streets
- 1:87 Walking to school through the Capitol Building
- 2:01 The Keeney School at 21st and P Streets *Keeney*
- 2:06 German lessons until First World War
- 2:30 Going to Purinton's store in Plainfield
- 2:86 Grandmother Purinton taught all the children to cook
- 2:96 Dances at the Grange Hall
- 3:05 Going by train to Davis, then by wagon with Grandfather
- 3:26 Driving through the tules
- 3:45 Went to college at the urging of her family, especially encouraged to go to Mills College
- 3:92 Decided to be an elementary teacher like her Mother and Grandmother
- 4:04 Wanted to teach psychology
- 4:12 Taught one semester at the Keeney School in Sacramento
- 4:21 1925 Went to Honolulu to stay with friend and help in a florist business
- 4:60 Swimming at noon in Honolulu

Tape II Side A

- 0:01 Introduction
- 0:05 Working as a florist in Honolulu
- 0:11 1926 went home to Sacramento
- 0:15 Taking hula lessons
- 0:22 Entertained ship passengers with the hula!
- 0:29 Family moved to 1150 38th Street from the Burnetts
- 0:55 Brother's wedding, brother's funeral
- 0:61 1930 returned to Hawaii to friends wedding
- 0:70 Went to Washington D.C. as a representative of the
Sacramento DAR in 1927. Traveled to New York City,
Boston, Quebec, Indianapolis, Green Bay
- 1:03 Flower shows, elected President of the Mills Alumni Club
- 1:15 Joined AAUW in 1924
- 1:23 Decided to attend business school around 1932
- 1:26 Recruited to teach shorthand at Heald's Business College
- 1:51 1935 Joined the Business and Professional Women organiza-
tion
- 1:55 1938-39 President of Sacramento Business and Professional
Women. 1939-40 President of the Northern District
of California Business and Professional Women
- 1:68 Took time out for illness, then took position with
food distribution to schools and needy during the
Depression
- 1:80 During WWII, Father becomes ill and dies 1944
- 1:88 Worked for Red Cross during war as volunteer
- 1:93 More weddings at 38th Street house
- 2:16 Celebration of AAUW's 25th Year Anniversary at 38th Street
house
- 2:25 AAUW activities, Dorothy becomes Executive Secretary
during the 1950's
- 2:73 Resumed teaching for the Adult Education Department
- 3:07 Takes a Semester off to travel to Australia and New
Zealand in 1959
- 3:18 Returns to teaching for Adult Education
- 3:23 Retires at age 70 in 1970
- 3:32 Becomes member of the Retired Teachers Association

Tape II, Side A cont'd

- 3:40 Becomes charter member of Parkside Community United Church of Christ in 1957
- 3:99 President of the Mary and Martha Group
- 4:22 Active in the 1940's in the Mental Health Association President from 1949-51

Tape II, Side B

- 0:00 Mental Health Association activities
- 0:13 Comments on retirement
- 0:33 Taking care of people is a family characteristic
- 0:49 Entertaining and meetings at the house on 38th Street
- 0:59 1906 Earthquake
- 0:78 Dr. Igo, early woman physician in Sacramento
- 0:86 Flu epidemic of 1918
- 0:97 WWI
- 1:07 Women's suffrage. Voted the first time she was allowed to vote
- 1:20 Prohibition, a bottle of whiskey and a bottle of gin.
- 1:31 The Great Depression, earned \$50 a month, employed and aided the less well-off.
- 1:64 The family automobile lasted over two decades
- 1:72 Vegetable gardening
- 1:82 Memories of WWII, the day war was declared, General Ed Rollings
- 2:34 Conclusion of the Interview